

House File 25

HOUSE FILE _____
BY SMITH, BAILEY, SWAIM,
H. MILLER, KRESSIG, STAED,
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PETTENGILL, BERRY, FOEGE,
HEDDENS, and GAYMAN

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act establishing a suicide prevention program for veterans.
2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
3 TLSB 1028HH 82
4 ec/gg/14

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1 1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 35.12 VETERANS SUICIDE
1 2 PREVENTION PROGRAM.
1 3 1. The department shall establish and administer a suicide
1 4 prevention program for veterans. The department shall
1 5 coordinate with the department of public health in developing
1 6 the program. The goal of the program shall be to reduce the
1 7 incidence of suicide among veterans.
1 8 2. The program established by the department shall include
1 9 but not be limited to the following:
1 10 a. Public education and awareness programs for veterans,
1 11 health care professionals, and the public, relative to
1 12 recognizing and responding to veterans at risk for suicide.
1 13 b. Referral services to identify appropriate suicide
1 14 prevention counseling and treatment programs for at-risk
1 15 veterans.
1 16 Sec. 2. VETERANS SUICIDE PREVENTION PROGRAM REPORT. The
1 17 director of the department of veterans affairs shall submit a
1 18 report to the members of the general assembly by January 15,
1 19 2008, regarding the development and implementation of the
1 20 veterans suicide prevention program established by the section
1 21 of this Act enacting section 35.12.
1 22 EXPLANATION
1 23 This bill requires the department of veterans affairs to
1 24 establish a veterans suicide prevention program. The bill
1 25 provides that the department coordinate with the department of
1 26 public health in establishing the program. The bill provides
1 27 that the program include public education and awareness
1 28 programs and referral services to appropriate suicide
1 29 prevention counseling and treatment relative to reducing the
1 30 incidence of suicide among veterans. The bill provides that
1 31 the department of veterans affairs submit a report to the
1 32 general assembly by January 15, 2008, concerning the
1 33 development and implementation of the program.
1 34 LSB 1028HH 82
1 35 ec:sc/gg/14